

our justification. A passive, inactive dead faith which does not rouse the feelings is as bad as unbelief.

Jesus said, "ye believe in God." He had taught them about God; he told them to address him as father, and to say when they prayed, "Our Father which art in heaven." He would have them know God not as a blind force which created and which rules in nature, but as a person, infinitely kind and holy and good. He would have us know that he sympathizes with us in trouble and is near to each one of us. Then he said, "Believe also in me. Let not your hearts be troubled." Belief in God without faith in Christ furnishes no cure for trouble. I would rather that all were chance than to believe that I have a Creator but no Redeemer. Nothing but despair could come with a faith that teaches that there is a God to whom I am responsible for my conduct, and to whom I must give an account, but that there is no Savior to be my mediator, my substitute, my righteousness. Faith in God and faith in Christ are not two but one. There is no adequate knowledge of God outside of Jesus Christ. The mission of Christ in the world was to reveal God; he became the manifestation of God—God in the flesh.

The faith which grasps Jesus is the faith which takes hold of God. Jesus reveals a God whom we can love, one in whom we can put confidence, one we can trust; and that is faith. But to believe in God and to reject Christ is to admit the possibility of salvation and to reject the means. Believe also in me.

J. M. TOMBAUGH.

#### I HAVE NOT TIME.

Dear Brethren and Sisters are there any of you who have been wont to insult God and peril your own soul by this plea? If so be assured that of all the excuses by which the claims of God and the convictions of conscience are outraged, no one is less entitled to regard than this. It is without foundation in truth; it is built upon the sand. A want of time is not the true reason why you are at this day the enemy of God, and exposed every hour to drop into eternal perdition. Stop a moment and consider a few thoughts on this sub-

ject, infinitely important to the interests of your undying soul. For what purpose has God given you time? Is it that you may spend it all in hoarding those riches which "will leave thee twice a beggar at death's door?" Is it that you may spend it in one unending round of toil to secure "the meat that perisheth?" Has the infinitely blessed God thrown thee into a world where all thy time is needed to secure the interests of a frail and perishing body, while the interests of the immortal spirit are sacrificed? No, it is not so. God has given you time to glorify him in preparing for a blessed immortality. Rather, he has given you your being that it may all be devoted to him. "Whether ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." "Holiness to the Lord" must be written on all in which you are engaged. He has enjoined upon you the two-fold duty, "not slothful in business," and yet "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;" and so doing, he has not only promised eternal salvation, but that, through the overflowing of his mercy, your temporal wants shall also be supplied.

He has kindly said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you;" for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. It was the remark of a wise man, made long since, and verified substantially in every age, "I have been young, and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread."

But again, how much time will it take to become a Christian? How much time to become reconciled to God when you are ready to renounce your own righteousness, and your own unworthy, selfish purposes, and trust alone in the blood and merits of a crucified Redeemer? God is waiting to be gracious; and as soon as you yield yourself to him, pursue his glory as your aim, and obey his commands with all your heart, he is ready to forgive and to save. Then you may pursue your calling—if it is an honest one—with renewed diligence, consecrating your business with yourself to God.

How long did it take the dying thief on the cross to repent and secure, through grace, the assurance

of a seat in paradise? How long was it after Zaccheus first saw Jesus that salvation came to his house? How long was it after the wicked and suicidal jailer at Philippi began to ask, "What must I do to be saved," before he was an accepted believer? How much time is needed for a rebellious child who really wishes to be reconciled to his parents, to become penitent and obedient. But if a long time is necessary for you to turn to God, who makes that necessity. Ah, sinner,

"Tis thine own heart makes grace delay,  
And hides a pardoning, glorious day;  
Thou hast not wished God's will to meet.  
Nor lain submissive at his feet."

G. A. RUFF.

#### LITTLE THINGS OF LIFE.

It is a close observation of the little things in life, which is the secret of success. As drops make up the sea, so the little things in youth accumulate unto the character and age. Nothing is too little for us to do, for little acts will raise life's value to its highest power. They are the tests of character and help us to do all little duties promptly and faithfully. It is by studying these that we attain much happiness and good.

In habits and manners we have only to watch the little things, for from them spring the mass of great vices and crimes. So with character, fortune and all the concerns of life, the littles combined will form the great bulk whether for good or evil. It is only the careful observer who gives little things their real value. Is it not the trees that form the forest and the grains of sand that make the beach? Often what seems a trifle may prove useful in some way for nothing is so small that it should be forgotten. It was asked of a painter late in life why he had gained so high a reputation among the painters. The reply was because I have neglected nothing. Let our rule of conduct be, whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well, and may we so live and make the best of the powers which God has given us that we may say as the painter—I have neglected nothing.

Meyersdale, Pa.

M.

THE man who avenges every wrong that is done him has no time for anything else.